

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6167

BILL NUMBER: SB 89

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 26, 2006

BILL AMENDED: Jan 26, 2006

SUBJECT: Serial Meetings and Electronic Meetings.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Gard

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill provides that, absent express statutory authorization, a member of the governing body of a public agency who is not physically present at a meeting but communicates with other members of the governing body during the meeting by an electronic means of communication (excluding electronic mail) may not participate in a final action taken at the meeting or be considered to be present at the meeting. The bill allows the governing body of a state educational institution, the Ivy Tech Board of Trustees (and committee of the board), the Board of Trustees of Vincennes University (and the committee of the board), and the governing body of a joint agency of a municipal utility program to conduct meetings by electronic means. The bill provides, with certain exceptions, that a series of gatherings by members of the governing body of a public agency violates the open door law if: (1) less than a quorum of members of the governing body attend each gathering; (2) the total number of members attending all gatherings at least equals a quorum of the governing body; (3) all the gatherings concern the same subject matter and are held within a period of not more than seven days; and (4) the gatherings are held for the purpose of conducting official business.

Effective Date: July 1, 2006.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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